EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

September 11, 2001

Whereas, peer-reviewed research has demonstrated that discount programs have been proven not to be effective; and

Whereas, The Program is not insurance coverage nor will it provide drug coverage to those millions of seniors who cannot currently afford even inexpensive prescription drugs; and

Whereas, The Program promotes the under-utilization of generic drugs, heavy use of mail order, and limits senior citizens to the option of only one drug per therapeutic class; therefore its mandates are not a true benefit, but rather a punishment.

Whereas, the National Pharmaceutical Association representing all of America’s pharmacy professionals at its House of Delegates assembly during the 54th Annual Meeting July 20–24, 2001 in Cleveland, Ohio joins other national pharmacy associations in opposing the Prescription Drug Discount Card program as presently composed and urges the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Congress to establish lockboxes for these funds.

PAST AND PRESENT ADMISSIONS made the very same pledge to not touch these vital trust funds. We must honor our promises by acknowledging that the economy is slowing and working together to find a solution to the budget crisis that is fair, and based on an honest, realistic budget. It has become clear that relying on the exclusion of all other priorities is not the answer. Let us find a better way before it is too late.

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROSS
OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, the catfish industry is an important part of the economy of my congressional district that covers all of south Arkansas. Thirty-six states either produce or process farm-raised catfish, with Arkansas being the third largest producer in the nation. The catfish farmers in my district and across America are being hurt by the unfair practice of so-called catfish from Vietnam being dumped into our markets and sold as farm-raised catfish. Last year, imports of Vietnamese catfish totaled 7 million pounds, more than triple the 2 million pounds imported in 1999 and more than 12 times the 575,000 pounds imported in 1998. In Vietnam, these so-called catfish, also known as “basa,” can be produced at a much lower cost due to cheap labor and less stringent environmental regulations. In fact, many of these fish are grown in floating cages in the Mekong River, exposing the fish to pollutants and other conditions. They are then dumped into American markets and often marketed as farm-raised catfish.

Vietnam says they are taking the necessary steps to fix the problem of mislabeling and dumping. However, this problem is not new and has been discussed with Vietnam for several years. We have yet to see any results to show that they are truly addressing this issue.

America is a country founded on the principles of fairness and good faith, but Vietnam must still prove that their actions are, indeed, in good faith. They must stop the dumping of this so-called catfish into America’s markets and allow our catfish farmers to have the level playing field that they deserve. Therefore, I do not support extending trade relations to Vietnam at this time.

Tribute to Elizabeth Hoffman

Hon. Mark Udall
Of Colorado

In the House of Representatives

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Elizabeth Hoffman, President of the University of Colorado. As Betsy enters her second year on the job, I can proudly say that CU is well on its way to fulfilling her vision of becoming one of the top three public research universities in the country.

During her first year in office, CU has set records in private gift giving, federal research income and state capitol construction funding. In addition to her drive to make CU a world class university, Betsy Hoffman knows that the University of Colorado is also a school for the people of Colorado. She travels tirelessly around the state to “bring CU back to the people of Colorado.” She has quickly gained the support of the people of our state in her endeavors. Governor Owens says, “She’s been very good at representing the university around the state. I give her an A plus.” She is also supported by state legislators on both sides of the aisle and by members of the Colorado congressional delegation.

Under Betsy’s leadership, I have no doubt that CU will become the world class university she is steering it toward. I am including an article about her that was recently published in the Denver Post. Mr. Speaker, I ask for my colleagues to join me in praising the work of a visionary and an educator.

[From the Denver Post, September 2, 2001]

Elizabeth Hoffman, CU’s new president, is supported by members of the Colorado Legislature.

CU Chief Earns Fans, High Marks

HOFFMAN’S FIRST YEAR BRINGS RECORD FUNDRAISING, LOFTY GOALS

(By Dave Curtin)

The glow of a 10-inch TV illuminates the darkened office of University of Colorado President Betsy Hoffman as she meets with her top aides in her office on a rainy Thursday morning. She’s trying to decide which of four infomercials she likes best to send to 35 million CU donors in time for the holidays.

Hoffman’s first year was record-setting for CU in private gift giving, federal research income and state capital construction funding. She’s working to improve faculty salaries. She’s received bipartisan support in the legislature—a feat skeptics said a rookie president would struggle mightily to accomplish.

“The way to do this is to have one face-to-face meeting after another where you can establish relationships.”

Hoffman likes to visit with CU leaders. During a recent meeting, she was able to talk to a group of 150 leaders from the university in small groups of 15.

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There’s no way I could have ended up in a better place than here,” she says. “This is